



Lesson 2

Help comes from Unexpected Sources

TOGETHER

Songs: CH4 600 Spirit of God, unseen as the wind; JP 149 Kum ba yah; JP 498 Cross over the road

Materials: Tickets (enough for every child and adult in your group), A4 card with Dalit written on it, picture of Jyothi Priyanka, Children's Bible. Notices with SLA's web address for children to take home.

As the children gather give out tickets some with the word IN on them, some with the word OUT. Show the children the letters SLA. Who can remember what they stand for? Remind them about the setting up of this charity to help Dalit children in Tuni, in India. Invite the children with the word IN on their ticket to the front. Give them a sweet/treat. Invite them to sit near to you. (Involve the adults in your group in this exercise too) How do those who are OUT feel? Ask the children what it would be like to live your whole life as an "OUT" person.

Show the word **Dalit**. *Dalits, in India are people who don't count as part of society. They are born into their caste and are considered unfit to mix with higher castes socially, to eat with them, to worship with them, even to use the same well in case they pollute the water. Dalit children are often denied education. The practice of excluding Dalits has been banned by law in India but it still happens and millions of people are still considered "untouchable" today. With the help of SLA and its supporters Premdash and his team are working to help Dalit children and to educate them so that they can take a full part in society.*

Show a picture of Jyothi-Priyanka

This is Jyothi-Priyanka.

Jyothi-Priyanka's parents fell in love at college, but her father was upper caste and her mother was a Dalit. His parents objected so the couple eloped, married and had Jyothi-Priyanka. Her father's family remained estranged for years until they suddenly invited the young family to stay.

One day they took Jyothi-Priyanka and her mother to the Godavari River. Her father was away. As Jyothi-Priyanka played nearby, the family pushed her mother into the river where she drowned. They told the police it was an accident but Jyothi-Priyanka's father realised the truth, and lost his mind. "Even the newspaper reported the case as a murder but the police did nothing about it. That is the caste problem," says Dr. Premdas.

Jyothi-Priyanka and her father drifted until one day, in Tuni, he wandered away and never came back. Jyothi-Priyanka was seven years old. A passer-by brought her to Light of Love home, where she has found a new family.

Tell the children they can find Jyothi- Priyanka's story and picture in SLA's web site.

BIBLE STUDY in groups

Ask the children if they can think of a bible story that Jesus told which deals with prejudice against a set of people. Tell them that in Jesus time the Samaritans were considered to be lesser people by the Jews. Choose members of your group to take on the character and to mime the action as you read the story from Luke 10 v 25-37 (use a child friendly version of the Bible). Try to involve everyone. Before you begin ask the children to think, as they hear the story, about what Jesus tells us about being a neighbour.

Characters Travelling man robbers Priest Levite Samaritan innkeeper

*Who are our neighbours today? What difference has fast transport made to our idea of a neighbour?
Who do the people who work for Scottish Love in Action see as their neighbours?*

PRAYER

Include prayers for the work of your congregation and its missionary partners. Pray for the work of SLA in Tuni and for all the children it helps. Pray also for the millions of Dalit children and adults who still need help.

Hand out notices with SLA's web address for children who have web access to take home.

http:// www.sla-india.org
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